

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 14, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 28, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 15, 2010

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1440**

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**Introduced by Senator Padilla**

**(Principal coauthor: Senator Romero)**

**(Coauthors: ~~Senators Hancock and Price~~)**

**(Coauthor: ~~Assembly Member Fong~~)**

*(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Beall and Fong)*

**(Coauthors: Senators Ashburn, Cedillo, Correa, Cox, Hancock, Huff, Liu, Lowenthal, Negrete McLeod, Pavley, Price, Strickland, and Wyland)**

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Arambula, Bradford, Brownley, Carter, Chesbro, Conway, Davis, Furutani, Gaines, Huber, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Nielsen, Portantino, Ruskin, Smyth, Swanson, and Torlakson)*

February 19, 2010

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An act to add Article 3 (commencing with Section 66745) to Chapter 9.2 of Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1440, as amended, Padilla. California Community Colleges: student transfer.

Existing law establishes the 3 segments of public postsecondary education in this state. These segments include the California State University, the campuses of which are administered by the Trustees of the California State University, the University of California, which is

administered by the Regents of the University of California, and the California Community Colleges, which are administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes them to provide instruction to students at community college campuses.

Existing law, known as the Donahoe Higher Education Act, authorizes the community colleges to grant associate in arts and associate in science degrees. The act also requires the regents, the trustees, and the board of governors to have as a fundamental policy the maintenance of a healthy and expanded program to increase the number of transfer students from community colleges.

This bill would enact the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act, which would require a community college district, commencing with the fall term of the 2011–12 academic year, to grant an associate degree *for transfer* to a student in his or her field of study that would deem the student eligible for transfer into a California State University baccalaureate program when the student meets prescribed requirements. This bill would prohibit a community college district from imposing any requirements, in addition to these requirements, for a student to be eligible for the associate degree *for transfer*, and would prohibit remedial noncollegiate level coursework from being counted towards the units required for the associate degree *for transfer*. ~~This~~

~~This~~ bill would require the California State University to guarantee admission with junior status to any community college student who meets the requirements for the associate degree *for transfer*. This bill would not guarantee a student admission for specified majors or campuses, but would require the California State University to grant a student priority admission to a program or major that is ~~similar~~ *comparable* to his or her community college major or area of emphasis. This bill would authorize the California State University to require a transferring student to take additional coursework in specified circumstances, and would prohibit the California State University from requiring a transferring student to repeat courses that are ~~similar~~ *comparable* to those taken at the community college that counted towards the units required for the associate degree *for transfer*. ~~This~~

~~This~~ bill would also require the Legislative Analyst's Office to review and report to the Legislature, within a prescribed time period, on specified outcomes and recommendations related to this act.

By requiring a community college district to grant the associate degree *for transfer*, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

3 (a) Since the enactment of the Master Plan for Higher Education  
4 in 1960, preparing students to transfer to a four-year university  
5 has been a core function of the California Community Colleges.

6 (b) Successful progression from lower division coursework to  
7 degree completion is a basic principle of California higher  
8 education and is critical to the future of the state's economy.

9 (c) Currently, the coursework necessary to transfer to a campus  
10 of the California State University or the University of California  
11 differs from the coursework needed to earn an associate degree.  
12 As a result, many transfer students leave the community college  
13 system having completed transfer requirements, but are unable to  
14 participate in community college graduation ceremonies, do not  
15 have a degree to show for their work, and are ineligible for some  
16 awards and scholarships because they did not fulfill current  
17 requirements for an associate degree.

18 (d) Today, one in every four jobs requires an associate degree  
19 or higher. In the near future, one in every three jobs will require  
20 an associate degree or higher.

21 (e) *The Public Policy Institute of California projects that*  
22 *California will have one million fewer graduates than it needs in*  
23 *2025, and that increasing transfer rates from community colleges*  
24 *to four-year institutions would dramatically reduce the education*  
25 *skills gap.*

26 (e)

1 (f) The community college system allows the state to address  
2 the serious *projected* shortage of educated workers.

3 (~~f~~)

4 (g) To meet workforce demands in a cost-effective way,  
5 incentivizing students to earn an associate degree while preparing  
6 for transfer to a four-year college or university, and recognizing  
7 that they have completed a transfer preparation course pattern,  
8 provides students encouragement and support to complete their  
9 overall educational pursuits.

10 SEC. 2. Article 3 (commencing with Section 66745) is added  
11 to Chapter 9.2 of Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education  
12 Code, to read:

13  
14 Article 3. Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act

15  
16 66745. This article shall be known, and may be cited as the  
17 Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act.

18 66746. (a) Commencing with the fall term of the 2011–12  
19 academic year, a community college district shall grant an associate  
20 degree *for transfer* to a student in his or her field of study that shall  
21 deem the student eligible for transfer into a California State  
22 University baccalaureate program when the student meets both of  
23 the following requirements:

24 (1) Completion of 60 semester units or 90 quarter units that are  
25 eligible for transfer to the California State University, including  
26 both of the following:

27 (A) The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum  
28 (IGETC) or the California State University General  
29 Education-Breadth Requirements.

30 (B) A minimum of 18 semester units or 27 quarter units in a  
31 major or area of emphasis, as determined by the community college  
32 district.

33 (2) Obtainment of a minimum grade point average of 2.0.

34 (b) A community college district shall not impose any  
35 requirements in addition to the requirements of this section,  
36 including any local college or district requirements, for a student  
37 to be eligible for the associate degree *for transfer* and subsequent  
38 admission to the California State University pursuant to Section  
39 66747.

1     (c) *In the development of an associate degree for transfer, a*  
2 *community college district is encouraged to consider the local*  
3 *articulation agreements and other work between the respective*  
4 *faculties from the affected community college and California State*  
5 *University campuses to clarify pathways for students.*

6     (d) *Community colleges are encouraged to facilitate the*  
7 *acceptance of credits at other community colleges toward the*  
8 *associate degree for transfer pursuant to this section.*

9     (e)

10    (e) This section shall not preclude students who are assessed at  
11 below collegiate level from acquiring remedial noncollegiate level  
12 coursework in preparation for obtaining the associate degree.  
13 Remedial noncollegiate level coursework shall not be counted as  
14 part of the transferable units required pursuant to paragraph (1) of  
15 subdivision (a).

16    66747. Notwithstanding Chapter 4 (commencing with Section  
17 66201), the California State University shall guarantee admission  
18 with junior status to any community college student who meets  
19 all of the requirements of Section 66746. The California State  
20 University shall not guarantee admission for specific majors or  
21 campuses. Notwithstanding Chapter 4 (commencing with Section  
22 66201), the California State University shall grant a student priority  
23 admission to a program or major that is ~~similar~~ *comparable* to his  
24 or her community college major or area of emphasis.

25    66748. (a) The California State University may require a  
26 student transferring pursuant to this article to take additional  
27 courses so long as the student is not required to take any more than  
28 60 additional semester units or 90 quarter units at the California  
29 State University for majors requiring 120 semester units or 180  
30 quarter units. Specified high unit majors shall be exempt from this  
31 subdivision upon agreement by the Chancellors of the California  
32 State University and the California Community Colleges and their  
33 respective academic senates.

34    (b) The California State University shall not require students  
35 transferring pursuant to this article to repeat courses that are ~~similar~~  
36 *comparable* to those taken at the community college that counted  
37 toward the associate degree *for transfer* granted pursuant to Section  
38 66746.

1 66749. (a) The Legislative Analyst's Office shall review and  
2 report to the Legislature, *during budget committee hearings in*  
3 *spring 2012, an update on the implementation of this act.*

4 (b) *The Legislative Analyst's Office shall also review and report*  
5 *to the Legislature, within four years of implementation of this*  
6 *article, on both of the following:*

7 ~~(a)~~

8 (1) The outcomes of implementation of this article, including,  
9 but not limited to, all of the following:

10 ~~(1)~~

11 (A) Transfer rates.

12 ~~(2)~~

13 (B) The average amount of time and units it takes a student to  
14 earn an associate degree *for transfer* pursuant to this article and a  
15 subsequent baccalaureate degree.

16 ~~(3)~~

17 (C) Student progression and completion rates.

18 ~~(4)~~

19 (D) Other relevant indicators of student success.

20 ~~(b)~~

21 (2) Recommendations for statutory changes necessary to  
22 facilitate the goal of a clear and transparent transfer process.

23 SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
24 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
25 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
26 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
27 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.